unesco sources

COVER TO COVER

OMAN : DIGGING INTO THE SANDS OF TIME

STREET CHILDREN IN AFRICA : A SIGNAL OF ALARM

N° 22 - JANUARY 1991

IDEAS AND OPINIONS

It Was My Good Fortune

Jacques Richardson
Paris, France

It was with genuine pleasure that I read the editorial by Mr. Ueda Koichi in the November 1990 issue of Sources.

It was my good fortune, as a young military officer during the occupation of Japan, to be stationed in the city of Sendai where Mr. Ueda founded the very first Unesco cooperative association. Although he cannot remember me, he invited me to participate in several of his association's activities.

And little did I dream then that I would later spend almost fourteen years in the "S" (Science) part of Unesco.

What Dialogue ?

Patrick Lesueur
Student
Grenoble, France

I have just read (Sources No. 20) your article on the Maritime Silk Roads Expedition. Please excuse my very serious reservations on the universal dimension of this project. Is it really possible to speak of a «dialogue» between East and West when the entire venture involves a small conclave of scientists, who, however eminent, are nonetheless among the "happy few" ?

One form of dialogue does not exclude another. In other words, the dialogue in which scientists of East and West will engage over a period of several years, thanks to Unesco's Silk Roads Project, does not, quite on the contrary, exclude other forms of exchange, between Orient and Occident, political, economic and financial, cultural, or, for that matter, between ordinary citizens of whatever origin. - **Ed.**

Unesco Is Very Special To Me

Geneviève Fiore
Founder and President Emeritus
Unesco Association of Colorado
Denver, U.S.A.

I deeply appreciated the article devoted to me in your November issue and the photo on page 7. I am indebted to the author Joseph A. Mehan and to the staff of Unesco Sources.

Unesco is very special to me and I feel fortunate to have been associated with it for over 43 years. Over those many years, our programs and activities have truly circled the globe by promoting international understanding, goodwill and appreciation of all peoples.

What started as a small neighborhood group to educate ourselves and our families about other peoples and other cultures has seen the world become our home and its people our family.

My heartfelt thanks to all. We share our copies of Unesco Sources with many individuals and groups and use excerpts in our newsletter. May this Holiday Season truly be one of Peace and Goodwill.

There Are Problems

K.L. Dzedikou, President
Togo Federation of Unesco Clubs
Lomé, Togo

Congratulations on your issue devoted to Unesco Clubs. You might, however, have reported on some of the problems which block Unesco Club activities in a certain number of countries where the movement is virtually at a standstill.

Please see our detailed run-down of these problems on page 10 of the Unesco Clubs issue. Did we minimize them ? - **Ed.**

Readers, this page is yours. Please don't hesitate to share your opinions, your criticism, your comments on Unesco's activities. To your pens !

INSIGHT

"From wish to reality"

"Unesco", Leopold Sedar Senghor, poet and statesman, once said, "should be a place for give and take". In the diplomatic language appropriate to official resolutions, this destiny is expressed as follows: "Unesco shall make available all the information at its disposal and to which it has access, in permanent liaison with the international intellectual community". For, and this time in a more visionary tone, "wherever a teacher, artist, scientist, writer or journalist is to be found, there Unesco should also be".

The Organization's periodicals are in the forefront of the effort to make this wish into a reality, but they are rarely in the spotlight. The ***Unesco Courier,*** *of course, is the exception. Its circulation, its many language versions and the wide range of its readership have spread its fame beyond the frontiers of the "international intellectual community". But how well-known is it, for example, that the circulation of the education journal,* ***Prospects,*** *is much higher than that of even is most distinguished national counterparts? Or that* ***Museum*** *, in the scope of the subjects covered and through its five language editions, is the only magazine of its kind in the world? - a forum of information and reflection on museums of all kinds. Who is aware that it is very, very rare for an author to decline an invitation to write an article for the* ***International Social Science Journal,*** *because authors know that through it they can make contact with readers they could not otherwise reach? Getting to know the Organization's periodicals - which are presented in this month's* ***Focus*** *dossier - holds many surprises in store. Most of them are good, but some are more worrying, like trying to balance the account books at a time when purse-strings are very tight.*

And last but not least is our own ***Unesco Sources.*** *It is the youngest periodical of them all and will celebrate its second birthday next month. Its aim may, on the face of it appear to be more prosaic - to make the Organization's activities known - even though the answer to the question, "What is Unesco doing", is far from simple. It appears only in three languages and the Portuguese version has only become possible thanks to the generous help of the Unesco Centre at Oporto.*

However, ***Unesco Sources*** *continues to grow and move forward. Another big step will be taken with the February issue which will feature a new layout designed to make the magazine more attractive and more informative. February will also see the birth of a Spanish edition, published thanks to the firm support of our friends at the Unesco Centre in Catalonia, to meet the legitimate expectations of our Hispanophone readers.*

A periodical is like a bicycle: the moment it stops moving forward it falls by the wayside.

Unesco Sources

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Photo-montage : Michel Claude

Unesco Sources.
Editor-in-chief : René Lefort
Associate editors : Betty Werther, Sue Williams, Claudine Breuil
Assistant Managing Editor : Christine Moullère
Lay-out : Gisèle Traiano, Fiona Ryan
Promotion and distribution : Peggy Chaillier
Secretary : Dorine Maarek.
Editorial and Distribution Services : Unesco Sources, 7, Place de Fontenoy, 75700 Paris. Tel. (1) 45-68-10-00, Fax 45.67.30.72, Telex 200472 France.
Photoengraving and printing in Unesco Workshops. Distribution by Unesco's specialized services.

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ISSN 1014-6989

READEX FICHE

PEOPLE

■ **PUTZEYS-ALVAREZ NAMED ASSISTANT DIRECTOR-GENERAL**

Mr Guillermo Putzeys-Alvarez (Guatemala) has been appointed Unesco Assistant Director-General for External Relations.

Minister of Education, Science and Culture in his country from 1974 to 1978, Mr Putzeys-Alvarez has been closely associated with Unesco, as a Member of the Organization's Executive Board from 1978 to 1983, as President of its General Conference from 1987 to 1989, and as President of the Intergovernmental Committee for the World Decade for Cultural Development from 1988 to 1990. Since 1983 until his nomination on December 3, he was Guatemala's Ambassador to France, and Permanent Delegate to Unesco.

■ **EUROPEAN BOOK WEEK WINNERS**

Young French film star, Anthony Delon, presided over a cermony at Unesco on Tuesday November 27, to draw lots to determine the final winners of the European authors contest, the highlight of European Book Week 1990.

Organized on the occasion of International Literacy Year, and under the patronage of Unesco, European Book Week was aimed at demonstrating that "Cultural Europe extends from the Atlantic to the Urals". A contest for young people to test their knowledge of European authors was the main event which linked the participating countries. The prize winners, who will spend a week at an international youth camp near Hanover (Germany), include : Dmitrii Ukrainskii USSR), Agnes Kober (Germany), Helga Tomsity (Ungary), Valérie Saulle (France), Annamaria Colombo (Switzerland), Michael Stummer (Austria), Andre Matisak (Czechoslovakia), Karin Gfeller and Melanie Zeiter (Switzerland).

Anthony Delon (right) with E. Maunick, Unesco's official who awarded the prizes (Photo Unesco/M. Claude).

"Like the cat that got the cream"

Paul Belanger, Director of UIE

Paul Belanger, Director of Unesco's Institute for Education (UIE) in Hamburg, is a man who loves his job. *"I am like the cat that got the cream"*, he beams, exuding an enthusiasm that, according to his colleagues, has breathed a new life into the Institute in the 12 months since his arrival.

Paul Belanger (left) with two of his collaborators (Photo Unesco/S. Williams).

Likewise, the 50 year-old French Canadian has nothing but praise for the *"extraordinary"* team of 17 education specialists and support staff he works with, and with whom he hopes to make the Institute a *"centre of gravity for education research"*, particularly in the context of the changes occurring in Eastern Europe. *"There are a whole new range of questions to answer on national identities, school curriculums and even geography and history."* This falls right into the UIE's domain.

Offered to Unesco in 1952 by the Federal Republic of Germany's then Chancellor, Konrad Adenauer, and guided by the principle that *"creativity is the best guarantee for democracy"*, the Unesco Institute of Education is a research and training centre concentrating on adult education, literacy and post literacy and non-formal education for children without access to the school system. *"Another field that we are beginning to open up is the relevance of the content of school curriculums for the 21st century,"* says Belanger. *"The issue is a delicate one - touching such questions as population, ecology and the transformation of nations. Curriculums are generally based on the idea of a nation, but this is too narrow given the emergence of regional blocs such as the EEC and ASEAN, or even the categories of North and South. We have to rethink the 'cultural ensembles' and this means rethinking curriculums."*

His 18 years of involvement in adult education in Canada have well prepared the UIE Director for the task ahead. *"We are saying now that if there is so much illiteracy amongst adults there must be a problem in the school system. In other words, a surprisingly large slice of society - up to 25% in some industrialized countries - has not received the necessary basic education. This has only come to light because our societies now need everyone to be competent in a variety of domains, which has thrown the inefficiencies of the system into high relief. We are well placed to launch the relevant questions and instigate the necessary co-operation between universities and educational institutions around the world to address these issues, creating a sort of invisible college of researchers."*

Apart from establishing international research networks, the Institute also organizes conferences, orientation seminars, operates a specialist-in-residence programme and is responsible for a broad range of publications. The elegant building which is home to the UIE, is a hive of activity, where the doors are kept open and an infectious good humour prevails.

"I feel very privileged to be here at this point in history," says Belanger, *"with the transformations we are now seeing one would to be very stupid not to be creative - the stimulation is so strong."*

Sue Williams

"Sowing the *Courier's* seeds"

Shen Guofen : editor, China

The most exhilarating moment of the 1980's for Shen Guofen, 64, founder and editor of the Chinese edition of the Unesco Courier, came last year when she saw readers queuing up in the street to buy a reprinted copy of an eight-year-old issue.

"It's really wonderful to see people that love what you are devoted to," says Shen. *"Culture develops with exchange."*

Fifteen years with China's largest academic publisher, where she compiled and edited dozens of history books on both Oriental and Western civilizations left this remarkable woman well prepared for the job of editing Unesco's showcase publication; she is multilingual, a lexicographer, and a council member of China's Translators Association.

Despite her years of experience and her linguistic abilities, she admits that preparation of the monthly remains a challenge. *"But I like challenges,"* says Shen, an amateur table tennis player, *"you have to make good responses quickly."*

It's not the meticulous translation that poses the difficulty for this sedate and modest woman, but rather promotional work, an area in which she lacked any real experience. However she quickly learned to select the right media to carry ads for the *Courier* and soon became quite expert in media relations. She has persuaded local radio and TV stations to present the magazine's contents each month and organizes regular discussions on the national networks.

The cover of the August issue of the Courier which deals with the origins of the earth.

Maximising access

Inadequate funding has also made the going tougher. However, she has managed to secure regular funding from the China Translation and Publishing Corporation, of which she is also deputy manager. Various innovations have also been introduced such as a direct mailing service which she introduced this year to prevent the *Courier* from falling victim to China's rising circulation fees.

While keeping an eye on costs, Shen never hesitates to provide copies of the magazine to libraries, recreation centres and Unesco Clubs, thus allowing *"dozens or even hundreds of people access to the magazine through these outlets".*

The *Courier,* introducing a diversity of cultures, *" fascinates Chinese readers,"* she explains. *"It's a window through which these people see other cultures and become more aware that they are part of a larger world."*

Recalling the 10th anniversary of the Chinese *Courier* last July, Shen tells of the vivid scenes of white-capped Muslims swarming into her office asking for a copy, and letters she received from young farmers in far-flung corners of China explaining how they would manage to save enough for a subscription. *"For the past decade we have sown the Courier's seeds in Chinese soil,"* she says proudly, *"and in the coming 10 years our devotion to the task is going to make it sprout!"*

SI Jiuyue/Beijing

■ EDUCATION FIRST AND FOREMOST AMONG HUMAN RIGHTS?

"One Billion Illiterates ... Education a human right?" was the title of an exhibition held at Unesco Headquarters from December 10 to 14, at the close of International Literacy Year (ILY). It illustrated how people, according to their means, in coutries big and small, participated in ILY. There were T-shirts and bolts of cloth brightly painted with literacy symbols. There were postage stamps, posters and key-rings, a magnificent patchwork quilt bearing emblems from 36 nations, and many other imaginative arte-facts carrying the message of literacy.

During the four-day show, painters from around the world (Armando Capretti - Argentina, Claude Feuillet - France, Samir Megally - Egypt, Hirochi Nakaema - Japan, and Mariam Sidibe - Mali) worked together on a monumental "mural-in-the-making" symbolizing literacy.

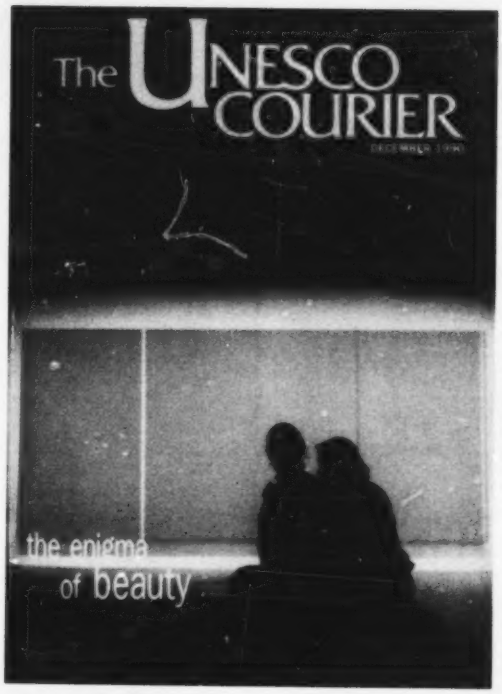
The painters at work ...
(Photo Unesco/M. Claude).

■ VACLAV HAVEL SCOOPS THE POOL

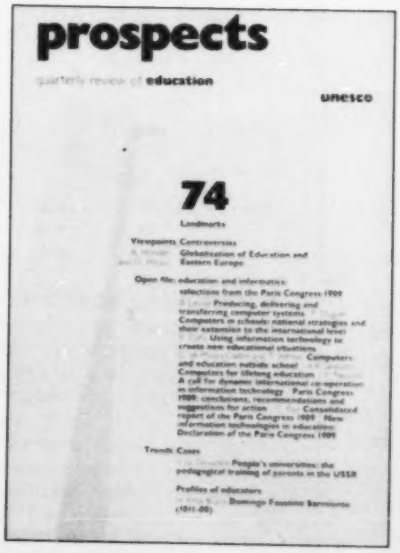
After receiving the Simon Bolivar Prize Vaclav Havel has now been awarded the 1990 Unesco Prize for the Teaching of Human Rights. The President of the Czech and Slovak Federal Republic was represented by his personal advisor, Martin Butora, and the country's Permanent Delegate to Unesco, Ambassador Ladislav Kovac, at Headquarters on December 10, which was also International Human Rights Day.

Havel was selected by an international jury in recognition of his engagement in favour of human rights, which has symbolised the process of democratization in Eastern Europe. His non-violent approach attempts, in his own words, *"to make of the human conscience a real political force."*

A READER'S GUIDE TO



Monthly, published by Unesco and the National Commissions of 20 countries.
Director : **Bahgat Elnadi**
Editor-in-chief : **Adel Rifaat**
Languages : English, Arabic, Spanish, French, Russian, German, Italian, Hindi, Tamil, Persian, Dutch, Portuguese, Turkish, Urdu, Catalan, Malaysian, Korean, Swahili, Croato-Serb, Macedonian, Serbo-Croat, Slovene, Chinese, Bulgarian, Greek, Sinhala, Finnish, Swedish, Basque, Thai, Vietnamese, Pashto, Hausa, Bangla, Ukrainian, plus a selection in braille in English, French, Spanish and Korean.
Subscriptions : 1 year : 126 FF, 2 years : 234 FF. Developing countries : 99 FF and 180 FF respectively.
Address requests to : Subscription Manager, 31, rue François Bonvin, 75015 Paris, France, or to national distributors of Unesco publications.



Quarterly.
Editor : **Zaghloul Morsy**
Languages : English, Arabic, Chinese, Spanish, French, Russian
Subscription 1 year : 100 FF.
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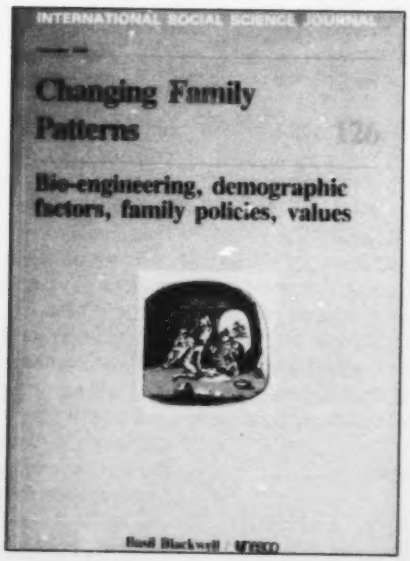
INTERNATIONAL SOCIAL SCIENCE JOURNAL
Changing Family Patterns
Bio-engineering, demographic factors, family policies, values
Basil Blackwell / UNESCO

Quarterly, published by Basil Blackwell Ltd for Unesco
Editor : **Ali Kazancigil**
Languages : English, French, Chinese, Spanish, Arabic.
Subscription 1 year : Institutions £ 33.50, individuals £ 19.50. Third World countries £ 19.50.
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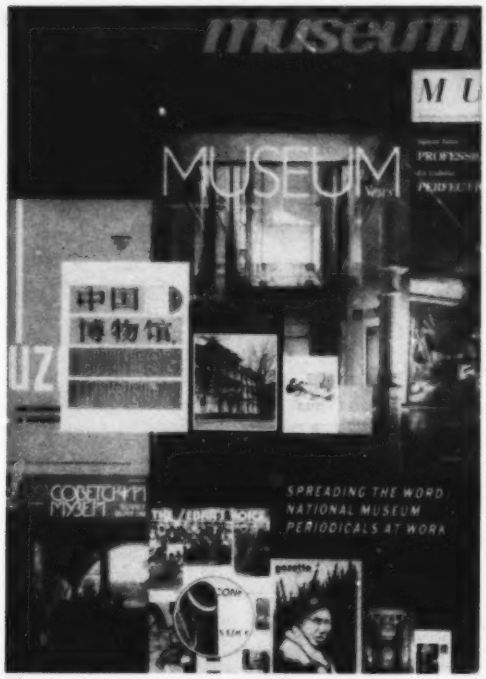
UNESCO PERIODICALS



Quarterly.
Editor : **Arthur Gillette**
Languages : English, Spanish, French, Arabic and Russian.
Subscription 1 year : 156 FF
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Quarterly.
Editor : **Evgueni Guerassimov**
Languages : English, French, Spanish and Russian.
Subscription 1 year : 60 FF.
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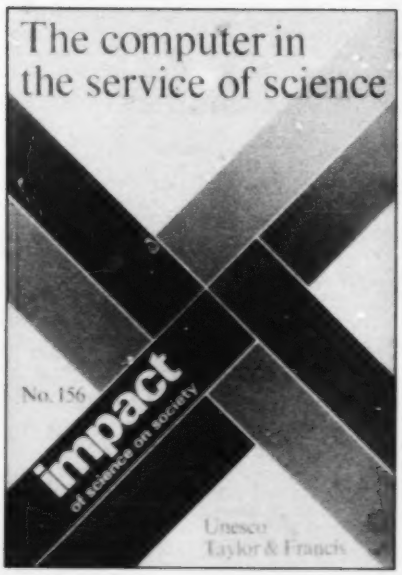

Quarterly.
Co-published with Taylor & Francis Ltd.
Director : **Howard J. Moore**
Languages : English, French, Arabic, Chinese, Korean, Portuguese and Russian.
Subscription 1 year : £ 31.00.
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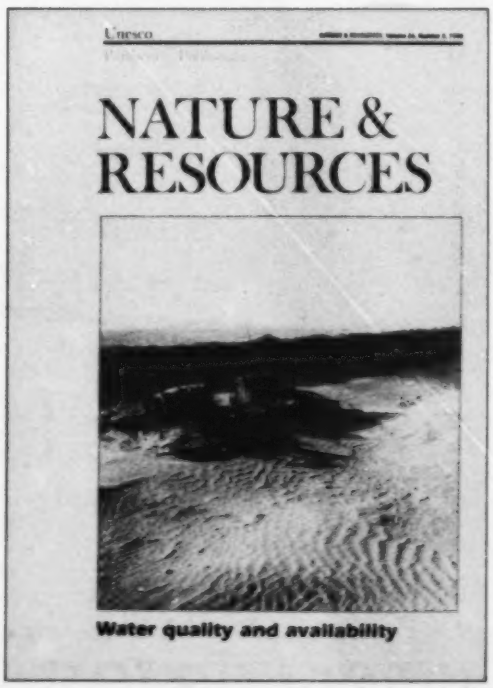

Quarterly, published with Parthenon Publishing Group.
Director : **Bernd Von Droste**
Languages : English, Spanish, French, Arabic, Chinese, Russian
Subscription 1 year : Institutions £ 50, Individuals £ 25.
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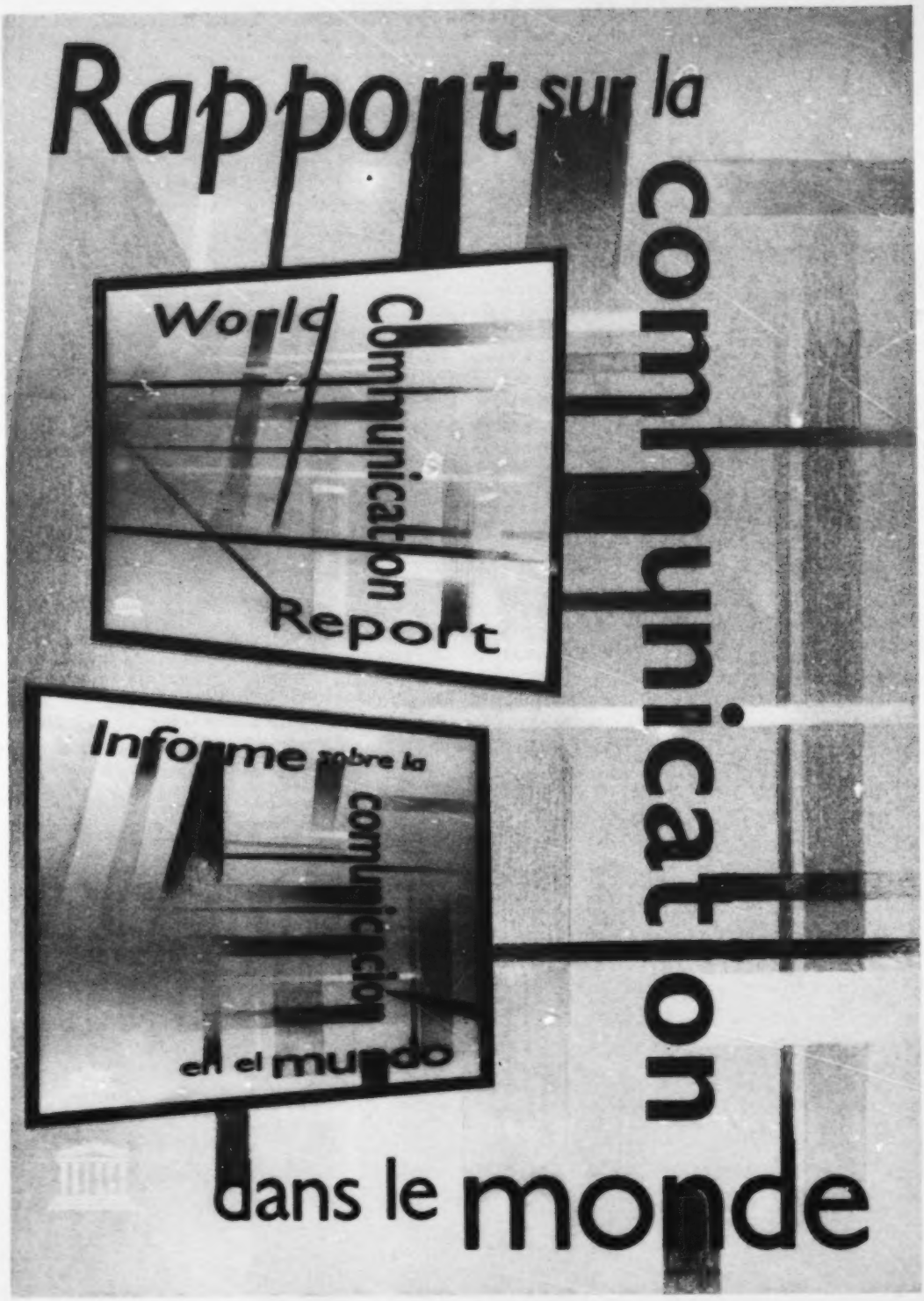


1000 pages
345 FF

FIRST EDITION

UNESCO PRESS

7 place de Fontenoy, 75700 Paris.
Tel. (1) 45 68 10 00 Telex : 204461 Telefax : (1) 42 73 30 07

FOCUS

Unesco : cover to cover

Unesco is not only a "house of culture" of universal vocation, but also a centre for the transfer of knowledge and a forum for debate. To this end, the Organization prepares and distributes a number of specialized reviews, such as *Prospects* (p. 14), *Impact* (p. 15), *Nature and Resources* (p. 16), the *International Social Science Journal* (p. 14), the *Copyright Bulletin* and *Museum* (p. 11). To these must be added the prestigious *Unesco Courier* (see below) printed in 34 languages as well as braille.

Unesco as a publishing house? The Organization's aims, in this domain are, above all, to offer a platform to researchers and intellectuals, and to provide access for the developing world to information and expertise. But how can this mission, weighed down by an unrelentingly heavy financial burden, be conciliated with the logic of the commercial publishing world? As its contribution to the debate, this month's Focus dossier presents Unesco's periodicals.

At Unesco, everyone calls them *"the twins"* and, in fact, they've been inseparable since childhood. It seemed only natural, therefore, that two years ago, they should come together to head the *Unesco Courier*, Bahgat Elnadi as Director, Adel Rifaat as Editor-in-Chief.

When they took over from poet and writer, Edouard Glissant, of Martinique, they were entrusted with the job of giving *"a new impetus"* to the magazine, at once a prestigious jewel in the Organization's crown and its showcase. *"It was an adventure" they said. "We'll see, when the time comes, if the whole idea was utopian".*

In order to give form to this *"utopia"*, a few simple guidelines: for over 40 years, the *Courier* was aimed mainly at an educational milieu. This explained the magazine's slightly didactic tone, and its readership which was either very young (under 20) or much older (over 50) with a majority of teachers. There was almost no one in between. Today, however, secondary school children, students and teachers can choose from such a wide variety of, generally good, national publications, that the *Courier* must capitalize more than ever on its own specific characteristic: universality.

The team from the Unesco Courier (Photo Unesco/Michel Claude).

First of all, the editors decided to make radical changes not only in the *Courier*'s *"look"* and content, but also in its spirit. *"To an increasing extent"*, they explain, *"the ordinary person needs to feel that people everywhere share the same desires, and the same problems. Our job, therefore, is to emphasize the values and hopes common to all. Unesco's message is to highlight both the contribution of each culture and those needs and aspirations which are universal. Today the magazine no longer*

responds only to school children and teachers, but to young people in general, to professionals and indeed to thinking people in all walks of life".

To reach this audience: more readable articles, a more sophisticated layout, top-quality illustrations, 48 instead of 34 pages, more colour and better paper. And above all, topical themes which correspond to the reader's concerns. Upcoming issues will focus, for instance, on cities, time, religions and freedom, love, games, the sea, eternity, cartography, Mozart's century.

No taboos or preconceived notions

These themes are discussed at the weekly editorial meeting involving he Director, the Editor-in-Chief, the Managing Editor, the Sales and Promotion Manager, the person responsible for studies and research, the editors of five language editions (English, French and Spanish produced at Headquarters, plus Arabic and Russian). In other words, two Egyptian-born Frenchmen, one American, another Frenchman, one Columbian, two British, one Argentinian and a Chilean, another Egyptian and a Soviet.

The *Courier*, published in 34 languages and a braille edition, is virtually unique in the publishing world. Yet, say the editors, *"we do not only translate, we adapt. Each text is written in such a way that the reader cannot make out what the original language was".*

At these weekly meetings, upcoming issues are finalized, projects are launched, ideas thrashed out, accepted and rejected. On the agenda at one such meeting in mid-November, was the February issue whose theme is *"utopias".* Articles had been commissioned, some of them already handed in, and read. One article was described as *"hopeless".* Another *"only becomes interesting on page 10, and should be cut to six or seven pages"* while yet another was *"fascinating and ready-to-go".* Never routine, the meetings are serious, marked by rigour. *"Can religions be considered as utopias"? "Why not"?* someone answered, *"Mohammed dreamt of a perfect,* egalitarian society. Isn't that utopian?" The debate was launched, without taboos or preconceived notions.

"We are sometimes accused of being too impertinent, of taking undue advantage of our freedom of expression" said Bahgat Elnadi, *"but we cannot hope to bring intellectuals back to the* Courier *without this freedom."*

It was Oscar Wilde who said: *"The difference between literature and journalism is that journalism is unreadable and literature is unread".* The *Courier* lies somewhere in between: it tries to produce both readable journalism and provide readers with articles of high literary content.

"We've stopped the fall"

Have these efforts paid off? In 1982, the French edition, looked upon as a kind of *"laboratory",* counted 140,000 subscribers. In 1988, they were down to 63,000. In 1990, the number rose again to 68,000. *"We've stopped the fall",* says the Editor-in-Chief. *"Now our ambition is to bring circulation back up to 100,000 over the next three years".* The three Headquarters editions sell over 120,000 copies. All 34 editions sell nearly 500,000. *"In any case, our aim is not strictly commercial",* explained Adel Rifaat. *"What is most important is to get Unesco's message across".*

Financing: that's the key-word. Faced with a budget crisis following the withdrawal of the United States, the United Kingdom and Singapore, Unesco has adopted an official policy aimed at ensuring that, gradually, everything the Organization produces and sells should break even financially, staff costs included. With this perspective in view, advertising possibilities have been explored and contacts made with possible sponsors. Still, this radically new *"commercial"* approach needs time to ripen.

Whatever happens, the *Courier* is on the eve of a kind of revolution which should enable it to remain the Organization's flagship while, at the same time, responding to heavy financial constraints. For Rifaat and Elnadi, the *"adventure continues"* and, who knows, perhaps *"utopia",* lies ahead.

Max Cerrans

Trying to transfer knowledge on a shoestring

In this age of mass media, how can an organization like Unesco, whose mission is to promote international intellectual co-operation, produce publications on a balanced budget? In the past five years, the number of publications and periodicals has been cut by almost half. Two solutions for these problems have been proposed.

First of all, commercial or institutional advertising. The General Conference has authorized the *Courier*, for example, to seek this type of financing. But the fact that periodicals are distributed to a rather imprecise readership in over 120 countries, making results difficult to control, leaves advertisers reluctant.

"The trouble is", says Henry Knobil, Manager, Sales and Promotion, *"that we are international. Academic reviews are generally linked to the national academic world. An American scientist, for instance, is practically forced to read his professional journal to keep up with developments in his field, not to mention notices of appointments, posts and fellowships. We have no such captive audience".*

Co-publication is another solution. In this case, an independent publisher handles the printing, distribution and sale of publications for which Unesco reserves editorial responsibility. The publisher assumes the financial risk, with Unesco buying a certain number of copies for *"compulsory distribution"* in Member States according to its statutes.

Unesco, of course, would like to have its publications sold at moderate prices, particularly in the Third World. Yet here again, since commercial firms must balance their books, the co-publishers are in no position to comply.

In the hard world of economic realities, moreover, publishing operations group several types of publications to reduce costs. According to Knobil, *"in 1990, no magazine, alone, can be financially independent".* This is particularly true for Unesco whose books and periodicals, most often addressed to specialists, have small print-runs, thus are costly to produce.

"Yet it is both an honour and the duty of Unesco to create and encourage an international conscience in all its fields of competence. But this costs money..." said Henry Knobil who, nonetheless, keeps on trying to square the circle.

A DAY IN THE LIFE OF "MUSEUM"

To get to know *Museum, Sources'* readers could spend a typical day (if there is such a thing) at our editorial office. It would go something like this:

8.35 a.m. The Editor is in early to correct page proofs (before the phone starts ringing) for the upcoming issue.

8.37 a.m. The first phone call comes from the author of an article for another issue to say that the reference in paragraph 3 of page 5 should be "*Donatello*" and not "*Fra Angelico*". The Editor takes note and returns to the proofs.

9.03 a.m. Georgette, the Layout Designer, calls to ask how the photos for an article on the re-opening of Moscow's Tretyakov Gallery should be placed in relation to the text, and also to know if we can afford to have some in colour. This can't be sorted out on the phone, so the Editor goes to the production studio, stopping on the way to check *Museum*'s budgetary status (colour is expensive). The news is not nice: the US dollar (Unesco's reference currency) has weakened against the Belgian franc (our printer is in Ghent) and we are already over budget for the current issue. No colour for the Tretyakov piece.

9.57 a.m. Yvette, who helps with secretarial work, complains that her software stubbornly refuses to use German accents.

10.05 a.m. Christine, the Editorial Assistant comes in with the draft Agenda for the next Editorial Advisory Board meeting. A long discussion ensues about the magazine's regular features. Is one of these stale? Should a new feature replace it - perhaps "*Vox Populi*", drawing on reactions noted in museum visitors' books? These questions will be put to the Board.

10.40 a.m. The Editor returns to his set of proofs (63 pages to go).

10.43 a.m. Alvis, at the Spanish translation desk, is on the phone, stumped by a reference to pre-colonial pottery in an article about a collection in Niamey, Niger. The Editor gets out the text and they puzzle together over the reference until light dawns. (A misplaced subjunctive was the villain).

10.55 a.m. Christine brings in the mail and the Editor sets to work on replies. One letter concerns plans for the *Museum* and *Courier* stand at an upcoming curators' salon; another is from an author asking for clarification. A third compliments the magazine for "*Museums and Art Nouveau*"; a fourth complains that Italy was not covered in that issue. A letter that cannot be answered off the bat asks for a bibliography on port museums. The Editor asks Katarina, a Greek trainee preparing a doctorate on underwater archaeology to see what the Unesco-ICOM (International Council of Museums) Documentation Centre can turn up.

Australian readership

11.42 a.m. Henry, the Subscription Manager, phones about an incomprehensible drop in *Museum*'s Australian readership according to a report he's just received. Henry checks his computer and concludes that some Australian subscriptions had not been processed when the report came out.

11.50 a.m. The Editor goes to the Science Sector and agrees with Dana, who edits *Nature and Resources* that its and *Museum*'s issues on "*Parks and Gardens of Delight*" will give each other reciprocal publicity.

A nearby church bell tolls noon and the Editor returns to his page proofs.

12.30 - 1.45 p.m. The Editor has lunch at the cafeteria with the First Secretary of an Asian delegation whose Ambassador, a publisher by profession, wants to promote sales of Unesco periodicals in his country. The main problem is how to obtain convertible currency for subscriptions. Unesco Coupons may be the answer.

2.00 - 3.00 p.m. At a Physical Heritage Division meeting, the Editor learns that zero growth is to be the overriding criterion for the next budget. He wishes that the printer would abide by the same criterion.

3.02 p.m. The Editor returns to his page proofs.

3.28 p.m. A Canadian photographer with a creative weakness for people in museums as a subject arrives two minutes early for an appointment.

And so it goes for the rest of the afternoon: phone calls, meetings, appointments, etc. until ....

5.41 p.m. Katarina arrives with seven pages of bibliography on port museums.

5.50 p.m. Christine brings in the afternoon mail and a swatch of letters (mainly to authors for an issue on "*Sports and Museums*") for signature.

6.33 p.m. The mail dealt with and the letters signed, the Editor returns to those proofs: 49 pages to go.

Some time later, the Editor's wife calls to say dinner will be on the stove in 10 minutes. The Editor says he's on his way, sighs, hears Christine's hardware clacking through the wall, and looks at the stack of still uncorrected proofs. He discovers the note - from the day's first phone call - about Donatello and Fra Angelico, and jots it down for action first thing tomorrow.

Does he put the proofs in his briefcase to take home? To find out, you should really spend a day at the office of *Museum*.

Arthur Gillette
Editor-in-Chief, Museum

We are going to have to change our displays, Marion.
Not that there is anything wrong with them... they are all first class.
It's just that I got a bit of a fright the other day when one of the younger museums asked for one of our labels...
...as an example of early lettering!

Reprinted from AGMANZ News in Museum's issue No. 168 on "Museum Periodicals"

FOCUS

COURIER

PUBLICATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS EDUCATIONAL, SCIENTIFIC AND CULTURAL ORGANISATION

Volume I - No. 1 | 19 Avenue KLEBER - PARIS 16e | FEBRUARY 1948

Conference Sets Programme for 1948

"UNESCO MONTH" ATTRACTS THOUSANDS OF VISITORS TO MEXICAN CAPITAL

DURING a month marked by physical strife and bitter verbal exchanges throughout much of the world, Mexico City was host to one of the most important efforts for peace and international understanding since the war, the Second Session of the Unesco General Conference.

Delegates from forty member states and official observers from scores of international groups attended the Conference at which Unesco's activities during 1947 were appraised and a world programme of action was formulated for 1948.

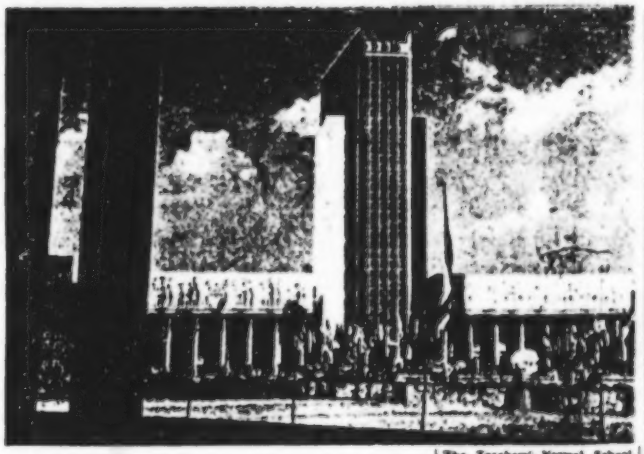
The meetings were held at the "Escuela Nacional de Maestros" on the outskirts of Mexico City, an ultra-modern, highly functional structure which was completed on the eve of the opening session. Nearly three thousand Mexican workmen and artisans laboured throughout the night of November 5-6 to prepare the school for use as the site of an international conference.

The school was built to house nearly 13,000 students, and included libraries, museums, gymnasium and industrial training workshops. It was, to all observers, symbolic of Mexico's grim effort to modernize and strengthen its educational system.

The opening session of the Conference was held in the resplendent "Palacio de Bellas Artes" in the heart of Mexico City. More than 2,500 delegates, observers, members of the Unesco Secretariat and visitors heard President Miguel Aleman of Mexico welcome the Conference, and sound a solemn note of warning which was the keynote the month-long meetings.

"We are met," he declared, "at a crucial moment for humanity." President Aleman urged the assembled delegates to strive for the creation of a "mind for peace" as an antidote to the tensions which are a stumbling block to international cooperation. "I consider the work of Unesco in the field of Education, Science and Culture to be on the way to developing and strengthening the moral spirit of the world, on which the love of peace must rest."

(Continued on Page 7.)



The Teachers' Normal School was the seat of Unesco's 1947 General Conference. The school is one of the largest and most modern buildings in Mexico.

M. MARITAIN CALLS FOR UNITY

The text of the Unesco Appeal (printed in the adjoining column) was placed before the General Conference by the President of the French Delegation, M. Jacques Maritain. It is based upon the principles expounded at the beginning of the Conference by the famous French philosopher, who declared:

"We meet at a particularly grave moment in the world's history. In face of international tensions and growing antagonism, the danger of which it would be vain to underestimate, vast sections of public opinion risk succumbing themselves to the idea of the inevitability of war".

"What makes Unesco's task acute at first perplexed is that it presupposes unity of thought among men whose conceptions are different and even opposed. However does or can there be an longer any common basis for speculative thought, in these conditions is unity of thought conceivable?"

This unity is possible, answered M. Maritain, because Unesco's ends are practical ones: "Agreement may still result spontaneously, not from a common speculative philosophy but from a common practical philosophy. This is enough to launch a great enterprise".

Dr Huxley Pays Tribute To Mexico

At the close of the Second General Conference of Unesco I feel I must express my very deep satisfaction and also my regret: satisfaction at the results achieved, due in large measure to the congenial atmosphere surrounding the Conference, and regret at leaving this unique country—with its wonderful climate and scenery, and remarkable, above all, for the character of the young race which inhabits it—a melting pot in which two old and vigorous cultures have been fused.

We have found an inspiration and an example to follow in the spectacle of a country which, in the midst of a troubled world, has preserved its serenity and has done more than any other in launching a vast campaign against illiteracy, aimed at developing strong and healthy minds in men who tomorrow will be the defenders of peace.

The Conference held in Mexico City has demonstrated clearly the benefits to be derived from the idea that Unesco should come into direct contact with all different cultures.

In the past month we have seen that what might be considered visionary is reality. We have seen living together in your beautiful country, united by the same ideal, men and women of different races, cultures, languages, ideologies and religions, all working together towards a common goal. And this it must be fully recognized, has been made possible largely by the unbounded generosity of the Mexican Government and people.

For the moment I am not speaking of all the material facilities provided for us, including the splendid building put at our disposal for the Conference headquarters, but of the arduous preliminary work carried out by His Excellency the President, Licenciado Miguel Aleman, thanks to which nearly all Latin America has been represented in this Assembly; and of the example I spoke of a moment ago of those people who are doing so much to carry education and culture to the most inaccessible parts of their country. This has been a powerful stimulus to those of us who seek to spread them to the remotest corners of the earth.

It has been an honour for me and for all of us to have as the President of the Conference Licenciado Don Manuel Gual Vidal, the Minister of Public Education of the Mexican Government, who has spared no effort to ensure the success of the meeting.

We shall never forget the generous hospitality of the Government or our warm welcome from the whole people.

Neither can I omit to mention the valuable co-operation given us by the Mexican press. I think I am not mistaken in saying that the whole press of the country was interested in our work, as well as a large group of foreign correspondents, representing the principal newspapers of the world. The work done by the correspondents of the Mexican papers has been a help for which Unesco can never be sufficiently grateful.

We have laid here the foundations of a new spirit, of universal co-operation, which constitutes a guarantee of peace; and in shaping the hand of the intellectuals of Mexico we have shared with them the grave responsibility for watching over the world we hope to build for future generations.

And so, as we take our leave we cannot say goodbye, for we carry away with us the conviction that Mexico lives side by side with the rest of the world and that the Englishman, the Chinese, the Lebanese, the Pole, the Australian, simply because they are men of goodwill, are giving reality to the ideals pursued by Mexico, which are the ideals of all right-minded peoples of the world.

Julian Huxley

To Our Readers

With this issue we begin the publication of Unesco Courier, a periodical designed to inform the public of the activities of the Specialized Agency of the United Nations for Education, Science and Culture.

The Unesco Monitor will henceforth be reserved for the publication of official texts, resolutions and proceedings of the Organisation.

This first issue of Unesco Courier is devoted entirely to the work of the recent General Conference of Unesco, held in Mexico City between November 6 and December 3, 1947, and the programme adopted for 1948.

Highlights of Projects and Budget for 2nd Year

The Second Session of Unesco's General Conference was the first to permit a review of progress made by the Organisation. It was the first opportunity for Unesco to weigh its development with the measure of actual experience.

It was also the first Unesco Conference to be held away from the headquarters in Paris, which fact gave rise to many complex and delicate problems. At the same time, the Conference—dedicated to strengthening the forces of peace—convened during international conditions which were, to say the least, very troubled.

Any fears or unhappy anticipations were dispelled, however, by the great goodwill, the willingness for hard work and the earnest and continuous desire to co-operate which were manifest during the meeting.

The 1948 budget was among the first items on the Conference agenda. For this year, a ceiling of eight million dollars was placed initially on the overall Unesco budget. This innovation enabled the working parties and the Programme and Budget Commission to draft their projects within the budgetary limits designated. The final budget, as ultimately adopted by the plenary session of the Conference, was fixed at $7,982,671.

The 1948 Unesco programme, subject of detailed study and discussion at the Conference, was divided into six main chapters. These, with the sums for each are as follows:

Reconstruction	$614,141
Communications	$1,714,782
Education	$854,581
Cultural Interchange	$130,537
Social and Human Relations	$287,536
Natural Sciences	$913,305

These allocations total $4,995,813 for 1948, leaving something over two million dollars for administrative purposes, for the next session of the General Conference.

(Continued on Page 6.)

Unesco Appeal War not Inevitable

A solemn appeal was addressed by the Unesco Conference to "all those concerned with the dignity of man and the future of civilisation" to combat the forces which "threaten a just and lasting peace".

Voted by acclamation and endorsed by delegates from forty nations, the resolution reads:

The representatives of Education, Science and Culture, meeting together at Mexico City at the Unesco General Conference:

AWARE of the responsibilities imposed upon them by the Constitution of the Organisation to further universal respect for justice, for the rule of law, for human rights, and the fundamental freedoms of the peoples of the world, without distinction of race, sex, language or religion;

CONCERNED at the dangers to peace resulting from currents of thought conducive to the idea that another war is inevitable;

TROUBLED by the indifference, resignation and even calm acceptance which such currents of thought meet in certain sections of public opinion;

address a solemn appeal to all who are concerned for the dignity of Man and the future of civilisation, particularly educationalists; scientists, artists, writers and journalists throughout the world;

adjure them to denounce the pernicious idea that war is inevitable;

to act as the mouthpiece of the conscience of the nations, refusing collective suicide;

to combat, by every means in their power, anywhere in time and every form of thought or action which may threaten a just and lasting peace.

The "front page" of the first edition of the Unesco Courier - published in February 1948.

FOCUS

International Social Science Journal

"AN ENCYCLOPEDIA IN THE MAKING"

Professor Maurice Godelier, anthropologist and Director of Research at the "Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales" (France), has for many years been *associated* with the *International Social Science Journal* (ISSJ), both as a reader and as a contributing editor.

He made the following comments on the ISSJ :

The very concept of focusing each issue of the Journal on a specific topic rules out the possibility of being a "regular" reader, since each one of us specializes in a specific field of scientific endeavour, and we tend to seize upon the special issues that are of concern to us.

But it's always useful to know that reports on topics bordering on your own speciality, that you may need to explore one day, are available. In fact, the way the Journal works is something like an encyclopedia in the making.

Another advantage is that it is published in six languages (English, French, Spanish, Arabic, Chinese and Russian), thus giving it a vast potential readership. Writing in a clear style that is accessible to the layperson, the authors, for the most part academics, demonstrate a deep sense of responsibility when called upon to impart their knowledge and research to readers who are not necessarily members of the academic community.

As far as content is concerned, my point of view reflects my own areas of interest, of course, but I do appreciate the fact that all of the topics explored are of vital theoretical and social importance. What is more, over the years, the Journal's recurring theme has been an assessment of the status of the social sciences throughout the world: their tools and their limitations, and their role - real or potential - in the life of society. Few other reviews engage in such a critical defence and investigation of the subject. In the last few years, however, less space has been devoted to this aspect, whereas I feel that the events we are witnessing today call for a new mobilization and critical appraisal of the social sciences.

However, it is not my intention only to sing the Journal's praises. Examining it over the period of the last 20 years, we find a number of short comings. The coverage of major contemporary religious movements - and not only Islam - is somewhat lacking. Black Africa is mentioned, but the grave problems confronting it are not adequately explored. Paradoxically, the review barely touches upon the leading capitalist countries, Japan and Germany, and takes only passing notice of the Central European countries that until recently still belonged to the Communist bloc. China is covered, as is India, but the South-East Asian countries to a far lesser extent.

In terms of approach, history, as a social science, and as a means of coming to grips with reality is not sufficiently present, neither the history of countries nor of problems. Not that history explains everything - and this itself needs explaining - but it is essential to situate the evolution of a country or an area of social activity within a time frame extending beyond the 20th century. For this is the way to get an accurate picture of such phenomena as ethnic identity and cultural impact.

In the same way, more space could be devoted to direct dialogue between the Journal and its contributors, and among the various authors. Might not each special issue be placed under the responsibility of an editor-in-chief, who could write an introduction comparing and contrasting the approaches and conclusions of the articles?

Finally, the coming years promise to be another golden age for the social sciences. Rarely, if ever, in the course of history, has a single generation witnessed the birth, growth and rapid demise of an economic and social system, as is the case today with the crumbling of the so-called *"socialist"* system worldwide. This phenomenon had not really been anticipated, although many had hoped for it.

Lesson to be learnt

In fact, to have foreseen these developments and predicted them, we would have needed better insight into the true nature of socialist societies, which would have meant more field work (not possible), better statistical data (sketchy or distorted), and greater understanding of the principles on which these societies were founded and governed (whereas those principles were too often either blindly supported or systematically decried). The lesson to be learnt from this is the need for a renewed and more extensive development of the social sciences. Serious study must be given to the growth - and not just economic - of societies; more comprehensive data banks are needed, and continuous discussion of methods. Perhaps the most important thing is to ensure that the development of the social sciences is more closely tied in with today's changing society, so that instead of struggling to keep abreast of events, we can place them in a more meaningful, and often more useful perspective.

Within this new context and for this new endeavour, the *International Social Science Journal* will continue to play its part.

M.G.

FOCUS

For "Prospects", Unesco's educational quarterly

SUCCESS IS SOMETHING OF A MIRACLE !

Zaghloul Morsy, 57, a former professor of modern literature at the University of Rabat in his native Morocco, has been the Editor of *Prospects*, Unesco's quarterly review of Education for the last 18 years. He explained to *Sources*, why the magazine is unique.

With so many national publications in circulation, is there really a place for *Prospects*?

Z.M. *Prospects* was created in 1966, originally as a practical pedagogical newsletter - nothing more. As such, it limped along until 1971 when René Maheu, the then Director-General, declared it was *"scandalous"* - that was the word he used - for Unesco, whose main job was education, not to have its own full-fledged education magazine, and he determined to create one, starting from scratch.

So in 1972, although we kept the title, we gave *Prospects* an entirely new look, new inspiration, new structures, in short, new ambitions: not to make the review a platform for Unesco in the field, but to deal with all aspects of educational problems, and to stimulate the renewal of education systems, from nursery school to university. There are, of course, national journals, many of them excellent, but they focus on national situations and problems, rarely touching on regional and even less so on global issues. Our aim is to give an international and comparative dimension to education by enlarging the frame of reference, thus stimulating international co-operation by stressing the complementarity of pedagogical experiences. This is why *Prospects* is unique.

What is your target readership?

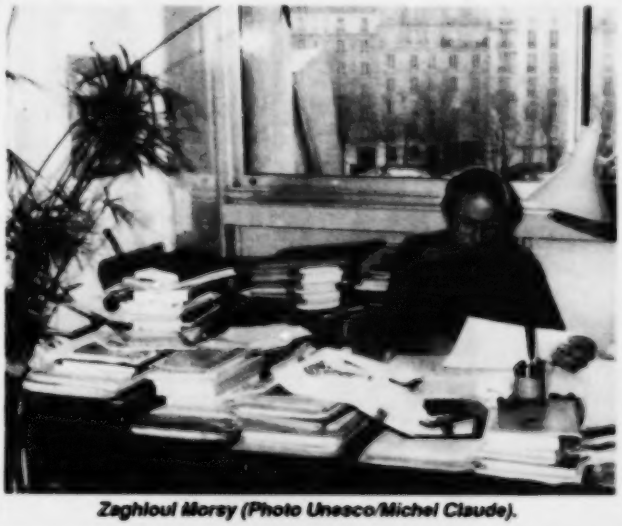
- Educators, educational institutions, decision-makers and university libraries. Fifty per cent of our readers are institutional, 30 per cent are teachers, educators, researchers, planners, those responsible for school curricula, etc., 20 per cent are from other walks of life. *Prospects* is a forum where people can describe their experiences and recent advances in the educational sciences. We make a particular point of insisting that our authors express themselves freely, that they make no attempt, for instance, to disguise failures and that, whenever possible, they offer constructive criticism. This, we feel, is the price of renovation.

Who are your authors?

- Since 1972, the review has opened its pages to about 1,800 authors from all over the world. Of these, only about 20 have been published twice and barely 10 of them three times. This is because I look for the widest possible diversity, especially geographic. I give general guidelines, ask for a detailed outline, and each author writes in his or her own language. The authors receive a token payment of $300 to $400 for articles which they are always happy to have published in so many languages.

How many language editions?

- The Arabic, English, French and Spanish editions are produced at Headquarters; the U.S.S.R, Bulgaria and China publish their own editions, as will Czechoslovakia and Romania very soon. Anthologies or selections have been produced in German, Hungarian, Italian, Korean, Polish, Serbo-Croat, Sinhalese and Thai. Others are in preparation.



Zaghloul Morsy (Photo Unesco/Michel Claude).

How is the review financed?

- We are under obligation to publish eight issues of *Prospects* in Unesco's six working languages during the biennium, with a budget of $500,000. In one way or another, Unesco also helps launch national editions. Subscriptions and sales of individual issues bring in about $100,000.

Do you feel that *Prospects* has attained its objectives?

- Our print-run, including all the language editions is considerably higher than comparable reviews like, for instance, the *Harvard Education Review* (U.S.) which has an annual distribution of 40,000 copies, the *Comparative Education Review* (9,600) or the British journal *Compare* (3,200). In 1989, Prospects had a print-run of 12,100 in English, 7,967 in French, 5,489 in Spanish, 4,000 in Arabic and the other editions even more: 60,000 in Chinese, 16,000 in Russian, 24,000 in Bulgarian, and 8,000 in an Arabic edition distributed exclusively in Egypt.

Even if you consider that about half of the copies, of editions produced at Headquarters, are "compulsory", that is, Unesco is mandated to provide them free of charge to National Commissions, Ministries of Education and in the Least-Developed countries (LDCs), counting the rest and all editions, we still distribute well over 100,000 copies each year to a worldwide readership.

And believe me, we could do even better, if we could just improve our promotion and distribution. That's the major problem. In fact, I would say that if people have subscribed to or bought *Prospects* over the last 18 years, it has been practically by accident! Only yesterday, an educator from Latin America told me he was forced to photocopy his own issue for colleagues, because it was so hard to find in his country. We should have more effective control over our «sales agents» and apply a differentiated price policy. You can't ask a teacher in Dakar, for instance, to take out a subscription for 100 francs, a tenth of his monthly salary, in the same way you would ask a teacher in Barcelona or Manchester for 100 francs.

Frankly, when you think about it, our success is evident, but it's something of a miracle!

M.C.

IMPACT

Scientific information accessible to all

"*Science, which is simply knowledge of our world, is beautiful; it is an inexhaustible source of surprises ; the scientific approach has the fascinating elegance of logic and its applications, together with the extravagance of human creativity. But science can also be gruelling and unrewarding, daunting for those who are not its familiars*".

These lines were written by Yves Coppens, Professor of Paleoanthropology and Prehistory at the College de France, Paris, in a recent issue of *Impact*.

The eminent French scientist was introducing the theme, "*Popularization of Science in a Changing World*", which, in fact, describes quite accurately what the journal, whose full title is *Impact of Science on Society*, sets out to do.

"*For many millennia*," Prof. Coppens continues, "*scientific knowledge was the preserve of a chosen few ... But constant growth in this area while democracy, too, has expanded, now makes popularization a necessity*", because science must be explained to decision-makers, "*and also out of the moral obligation to give all peoples a scientific background*".

Deep concern over negative aspects

Indeed, there have been immense upheavals in the sciences over the 40 years since *Impact* was launched by Unesco in 1950. New fields like computer science and molecular biology have literally exploded and, at the same time, the public has begun to show deep concern over the negative aspects of science and technology in areas such as nuclear safety and pollution of the environment.

"*Our job is to study the links between science and society, and make scientific information accessible to the greatest number of readers*", said the magazine's British editor, Howard Moore. "*This means not only transmitting information to scientists themselves, but also making complicated subjects understandable - and attractive - to scientists working in other fields, and to readers at all levels of society, from high school students to decision-makers*".

Mr Moore, 43, is well-equipped to do the job. A trained biologist, he worked for 10 years at two prestigious scientific publishing houses in Great Britain: Cambridge University Press and Longman, before coming to Unesco in 1982, where he took over the Editorship of *Impact* in 1987.

"*The work is not so different*", he explained, "*except that our audience is global*". Indeed, the magazine also plays an important role in helping to fulfil one of Unesco's fundamental tasks, that of promoting the spread of scientific information. Accordingly, *Impact* is distributed free of charge to many institutes and scientific bodies in developing countries which otherwise have limited access to scientific publications.

Each issue has a central theme, presented by some 10 specialists from all continents: "*Man and viruses*", "*Aging and the evolution of old age*", "*The computer in the service of science*" or, currently, "New chemical products and their application", are some recent examples. In 1991, the magazine will report on transport systems, new trends in science teaching, and devote two issues to the history of science.

Although British, Moore makes a special effort to break through Anglo-Saxon predominance of the research and publishing science. "*We call on authors from every region of the world*", he said. Thus, articles on a given subject will inevitably carry the by-lines of scientists from countries as far-flung as Sweden, India, Egypt, Brazil or Japan, etc.

"I wouldn't worry. With continental drift, Africa or South America should come by eventually." (One of a series of cartoons by Sidney Harris of the USA to illustrate an article, "Science Through the Cartoonist's Eye" in a recent issue of Impact).

Published in seven languages

Impact is published in seven languages: English (3,500 copies), Russian (5,000), Chinese (6,000), French (l,600) Arabic (3,000), Portuguese (2,500), and Korean (2,500). Since 1983, the magazine does not appear in Spanish for lack of a Spanish publishing partner. The various editions are, in fact co-published, with Taylor and Francis Ltd (London), with Progress Publishers in Moscow, Publicações Europa América (Lisbon), etc., and elsewhere with Unesco National Commissions.

Unesco retains editorial responsibility through an Editorial Board. Composed of some 10 scientists representing a broad spectrum of fields and from all regions, the Board meets biennially for a brain storming session to set up the main guidelines over a two-year period, and to allocate Unesco's $250,000 contribution.

For *Impact*, as for other Unesco publications , the main problem is promotion and distribution. Passing from one theme to another, from the computer to the virus, from genetic resources to new chemicals, etc. it is sometimes difficult to target and retain a specific audience of scientists and non-scientists, all the more so since this readership, by definition, is international.

FOCUS

NATURE & RESOURCES

Nature & Resources with its glossy new presentation, high-quality paper and cover photo in brilliant colour, is one of Unesco's most attractive publications. This may well be because the magazine is now co-published with the British "Parthenon Publishing Group" which handles production and commercial distribution. Unesco retains editorial responsibility and, as with the Organization's other periodicals, maintains universality as its specific characteristic.

Each issue has a print-run of 30,000 copies (9,000 English, 4,000 French, 2,500 Spanish, 2,500 Arabic, 6,000 Russian and 6,000 Chinese).

Launched in 1965, *Nature & Resources* replaced *Arid Zone*, a newsletter which since 1958 had reported on Unesco's Major Project on Arid Lands. The new quarterly announced that it would enlarge its scope to cover all aspects (hydrology, geology, soil science, ecology and conservation) of what was then Unesco's Division of Natural Resources Research and pay particular attention to the International Hydrological Decade which had just begun.

Over the years, the magazine continued to expand, developing a more sophisticated format with an increasing number of illustrations. It also served as a Bulletin for Unesco's scientific programmes: Man and the Biosphere (MAB), the International Geological Correlation Programme and successive hydrological programmes. During the past three years, however, largely due to Unesco's financial difficulties, *Nature & Resources* has appeared only sporadically.

Engineering its revival since the beginning of 1990, the magazine's Editor, Dana Silk, 39, a Canadian, has plans for *Nature and Resources* which go even farther than its brand new look. *"We hope to draw readers*, he said, *who are not usually attracted to technical magazines."*

"Nature & Resources used to be addressed mainly to specialists. Now, I want to popularize scientific and technical information with regard to the environment. We're looking for transdisciplinarity. We'd like to see, for instance, that the geologist's message gets across to the sociologist and vice versa".

The journal is aimed at natural science specialists, students, government officials, libraries, concerned women, men and young people among the general public and, to an increasing extent, decision-makers.

Dana Silk admits to having an original plan for the future: *"We hope soon to be able to use recycled paper for Nature & Resources"*, he said. *"Recycling processes far less polluting than those used today now exist, and we should set an example"*.

THE COPYRIGHT BULLETIN

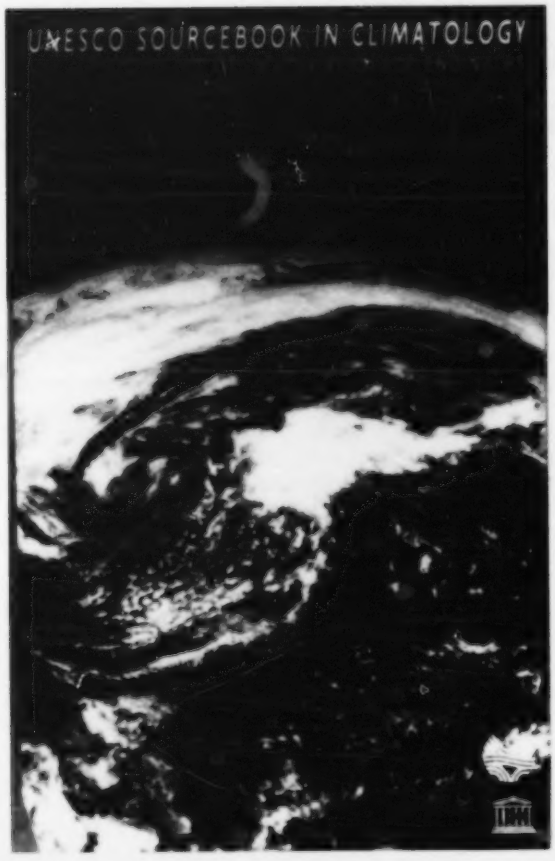
The *Copyright Bulletin* was created in 1948, originally for specialists. Since that time, however, the *Bulletin* has evolved just as the concept of copyright has changed with the expansion of its application to an increasingly wide number of creative fields. Copyright not only guarantees the just remuneration of literary, artistic and scientific works, it also constitutes a decisive factor for the development of a country's potential of culture and for the spread of knowledge. It provides, moreover, the legal standards which allow for better communication among nations. For all these reasons, it is essential that creators and governments be fully aware of the fundamental principles governing copyright. The *Bulletin* aims at fostering the acquisition of this knowledge.

"Our objective", says Editor-in-Chief, Evgueni Guerassimov, 49, *"is to inform specialists, authors, jurists and also the general public, about what is going on in the domain of copyright, at the international level"*. The *Bulletin* publishes news and information on the subject, reproduces the texts of conventions and recommendations, reports on adhesions to these instruments, on other recent decisions, and on Unesco activities in the field, notably teaching, training and the dissemination of information.

The *Copyright Bulletin* is published four times a year in English (2,000 copies), French (1,500), and Spanish (1,000). A Russian edition (2,500 copies) is published in Moscow by Progress Publishers in co-operation with the USSR National Commission for Unesco and the State Committee for the Press.

M.C.

PAGE AND SCREEN



Unesco Sourcebook in Climatology for Hydrologists and Water Resource Engineers, by Dr Marie Sanderson, ed., Unesco, 1990, figures, maps, tables, 109 pp., 95FF

BOOKS

Unesco Sourcebook in Climatology

Society is using more and more water, and since there is a close relationship between climate and the earth's water resource system, fluctuations in supply due to climatic variability are likely to increase. This sourcebook was, therefore, initiated by the International Hydrological Programme (IHP) of Unesco to meet the need for improved knowledge of climatology and meteorology among people using climatic data and information, to assess the water resources of an area or to design water schemes and projects. The first part presents the principles of climatology: the radiation and energy balances on the Earth's surface, atmospheric circulation, water in the atmosphere and its balance on the Earth's surface, along with climate classification and information on models and techniques useful to practising engineers. The concluding chapter deals with possible climate change scenarios - one of the most hotly debated issues of our time.

Science Education Worldwide

Based mainly on results of a *"global survey on the place occupied by science and technology in school timetables and curricula"*, carried out by Unesco in 1984 and 1985, this book also includes follow-up activities and material from other relevant documents. The first of three parts contains a brief account of the Survey, the second reports on recent trends in the principal components of science teaching, while Part Three comprises five case-studies into the adequacy of S & T curricula in meeting national needs in relation to the rapid evolution of scientific knowledge. Besides helping Member States to pool their experiences in innovative activities and strengthening technical collaboration for the evaluation of these activities, this study should be useful for all those wishing to have a global view of S & T education worldwide.

Science Education Worldwide, edited by Robert Morris, Unesco 1990, 242 pp., 80FF

PERIODICALS

The Social Science Journal

Changing family patterns. Profound changes in the structure and functioning of families has characterized the last two decades nearly everywhere around the globe. This issue (No.4/1990) takes a close look at the family structures in Europe and North America, Africa, China, Japan, Brazil and Algeria and analyses changes taking place under the impact of social, economic, cultural factors and, last but not least, recent developments in bio-engineering and reproductive technologies. The articles are revised versions of an international Unesco project on the Future of the Family, described in detail by its co-ordinator Djamshid Behnam. Elsewhere, in the *"Open Forum"* section, John Rawls' *"A Theory of Justice"* one of the most important contemporary works of moral and political theory, is submitted to a critical examination by French philosopher Paul Ricoeur and U.S. theologian Richard C. Bayer.

Nature & Resources

Water quality and availability. With the expansion of population, industry, agriculture and higher living standards pushing consumption up at a dizzying rate, water is increasingly appreciated as a vital resource which needs care and attention to remain available not only for present but also future generations. This issue of *Nature & Resources* (No.3/1990) raises several crucial questions on the availability of water and outlooks for the future, including: the shifting emphasis of hydrology and the changing role of the hydrologist with regard to the environment; the increasing importance of water quality management; the impact of human activity in the humid tropics on the earth's water balance; and water problems of large urban areas.

The Unesco Courier

Cities Under Stress. By the year 2000, over half the world's population will be living in cities. In the developing countries, rapid population growth, rural exodus and the concentration of economic activity have led to rampant urbanization which has gone hand in hand with the proliferation of squatter settlements, slums and shanty towns. The industrialized countries, where around 80 per cent of the population already lives in urban areas, face other problems like the deterioration of historic city centres, soulless suburban development and pollution. In this first issue (January) of 1991, the *Courier* takes its readers from Bucharest to Berlin, from Leningrad to Chandigarh and on to Lima to examine these problems. It also provides examples of the ingenuity, tenacity and solidarity which many city-dwellers are deploying to create a bright rather than a tragic urban future.

Publications and periodicals are on sale at the Unesco Bookshop, or by order from Unesco Press, 7 place de Fontenoy, 75700 Paris, and in Member States through national distributors.

UNESCO-ITALY ACCORD ON VENICE LAGOON PROJECT

A major research project on the ecosystem of Venice's lagoon will soon be launched thanks to an agreement signed last November between Unesco and the Government of Italy. Italy's contribution of $2,000,000 will finance the first phase of the project - a study of the fauna and flora of the lagoon, as well as the effects of pollution and salinity on the area's environment.

This type of activity was foreseen in 1983 as part of Unesco's International Campaign for the Restoration and Safeguard of Venice, but was abandoned for lack of available funds.

Venice's lagoon (Photo Unesco/D. Roger).

ART FILM AWARDS

L'Histoire du soldat by the French director Pierre-Oscar Levy was awarded the first Grand Prize at the 14th International Festival of Art Films, held at Unesco Headquarters from November 19 to 27.

Among the 74 competing films, the other Grand Prizes were attributed to *Je suis fou, je suis sot, je suis méchant - Autoportrait de James Ensor* by Luc de Heusch (Belgium) for the best direction, to *Le dessous des cartes* by Alain Jaubert (France) for the best scenario, to *Baroque et poésie*, a Japanese publicity film by Serge Lutens, *to Consecration of a place* by Bruno Gamulin (Yugoslavia) for the best photography and to *La voix publique* by Lejf Marcussen (Denmark) for the most innovative work. Finally, the Special Jury Prize was awarded to *Prélude à Parsifal*, a U.S.A. entry, directed by Moritz Gieselmann on a scenario by Tim Chu.

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Oman : digging into the sands of time

"The sands of al-Rub' al-Khali (Empty Quarter) and Nefud deserts have shaped the West's perception of Arabia. With the exception of the south Arabian civilization of Yemen, or `Felix Arabia', the region has always been represented as a white, empty expanse on the maps of the old world. No one expected to find in it anything other than the vestiges of hunting-gathering communities, more or less direct ancestors of the bedouins who themselves preceded the modern petrodollar civilization. This simplistic vision does not take into account elements that have been known for a long time and are backed by the archaeological discoveries of the last 20 years."

This is how Serge Cleuziou, archaeologist at the French National Centre for Scientific Research (CNRS), put it in the paper he presented at the recent international seminar organized in Oman during Unesco's ongoing Maritime Silk Route Expedition. One of the aims of the seminar was to show that Oman had a long and rich history marked by the extraordinary exchanges the area established with both East and West as well as with East Africa. *"We now know"*, says Mr Cleuziou, *"that there has been a continuity of human presence since prehistoric times, and that beyond Islam which gave them their present form, many aspects of traditional Arab society are deeply rooted in a very ancient past."* In a world where, barring a few exceptions, the immediate surroundings hardly ever provided the resources necessary for simple survival, the only possible strategy was to develop exchange networks to ensure a complementarity between the various milieus of the peninsula. *"This"*, says Mr Cleuziou, *"took place within the framework of a society which never had the urban aspect that scholars have all too often tended to associate with the development of civilization, but which nevertheless reached a very high degree of complexity."*

Examples of exchanges found in Oman and the Arabian Peninsula as a whole go back a long way. Fragments of painted pottery originating from southern Mesopotamia and dating back to the fifth millennium B.C. have been unearthed on coastal sites in modern-day Qatar, Bahrain, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates. The precise reasons for their presence have been the subject of much discussion, but it does indicate the existence, from that early time, of long-distance exchanges. Sorghum cultivated as early as 4000 B.C. in Ra's al-Hamra in Oman is a plant of African origin. Shortly before the year 3000 and on the same site, bitumen, the closest source of which was Bahrain, was used, probably for sealing boats, and botanical tests show the presence of a few examples of non-local wood, most probably coming from the Pakistani coasts on the other side of the sea. While not far from there the cities of Mesopotamia and what was to become Pharaonic Egypt developed, Arabia was undergoing an evolution of its own, strongly constrained by its environment but not at all closed to the rest of the world.

Special relations

The Oman Peninsula is the "country of Magan" appearing in texts of the second half of the third millennium, which enjoyed special relations with eastern Iran and the Indus civilization. In his paper to the seminar, Paolo M. Costa, former archaeological adviser to the Government of Oman and member of the Institute for Near Eastern and Far Eastern Studies in Rome, tells us that as a result of the discovery of 44 ancient mining sites in the 1970s, the identification of the Oman mountains with the legendary copper-producing country of Magan became more and more convincing. Specific archaeo-metallurgical studies leave no doubt as to the identification of Oman with the copper-exporting country mentioned in third-millennium Sumerian sources.

During the same period, the dominant influence in the region was that of the Indus civilization. A beautiful prismatic stone seal recovered in an ancient mining village in Oman and thought to be related to the copper trade bears on its three sides carved animal figures of Indus Valley style, suggesting connections of this village with the great commercial network of the period.

Oman was also in contact with China, and the excavations of the last 15 years or so have proved that relations with China were established much earlier that had been thought. One large project of the Omani Ministry of National Heritage and Culture concentrated on the study of the city of Zafar, the ancient capital of the Southern Region of Oman (Dhofar). Today, the site is a deserted part of modern Salalah. Professor Costa, who carried out excavations there, explains that Zafar was historically a very important town which played a major role in maritime trade from the 12th to the 16th century A.D. Chinese merchants imported from it, among other goods, large quantities of incense, the commodity for which Dhofar was famous already in the first millennium B.C.

Another of the Ministry's excavation projects was in Sohar, a site which, from antiquity to modern times, has linked the countries of the Near East with the Far East. Al-Muqaddasi described it in the 10th century A.D. as *"the hallway to China, the storehouse of the East and Iraq and the stay of Yemen"*. But relations with China are now known to have taken place much earlier. During her excavations in Sohar, French archaeologist and CNRS member Monique Kervran, found dark-grey stoneware fragments dating back to the 5th century A.D., identified as early Chinese stoneware. Speaking at the Oman seminar, Ms Kervran said it was almost certain they had been loaded in Chinese harbours by Arab merchants who brought them back to their country.

Why has it taken Western archaeologists so long to recognize the region's place in history? Serge Cleuziou claims that discoveries had always been under-estimated, *"undoubtedly due to an insidious bias at work in almost all research on Arabia's past. People were so surprised to find something that they, more or less inadvertently, minimized its importance, advanced the dates, reduced the duration."* This has now been corrected. *"When in the seventh century A.D. Islam finished moulding Arabia's personality,"* he concludes, *"it brought to light on the international scene a world whose particular culture and traditions already had a very long history."*

Maha Bulos/Muscat, Oman

The outside walls of the recently-restored Sohar fortress, with archaeological excavations in the foreground (Photo Unesco/Maha Bulos).

■ IIP SETS PRIORITIES

Training, the establishment of informatics networks and computer programmes as well as research and development - such are the priorities assigned to the Intergovernmental Informatics Programme (IIP) by its Comittee which met at Unesco Headquarters from November 26-30.

The 140 participants agreed that, once mastered by the main actors in the economic milieu, informatics constituted an important factor of development and should be promoted. To this end, supplementary funds should be made available to cope with costs, which are clearly much higher in those countries that are not producers of informatics technology, and to develop and adapt appropriate programmes for the countries of the developing world. To ensure that these technologies are properly understood and used, the Committee has stressed that training programmes be introduced as soon as possible.

■ BETWEEN SAND AND SEA

"Oman, citadels between sand and sea" is the result of 14,000 kilometres of journeys throughout the length and breadth of this vast country by Belgian architect and author, André Stevens. The book, illustrated with 82 colour photos, presents the first comprehensive survey of Oman's main historic sites, and is aimed at raising public awareness of the need to protect this rich heritage.

Granted "Associated project" status with the Integral Study of the Silk Roads: Roads of Dialogue, this work was published with the support of Unesco and the Omani Ministry of National Heritage and Culture.

>>>> *Editions Terra Incognita, Brusselsesteenweg 138, B-3020 Winksele, Belgium.*

■ **A SHOW OF SOLIDARITY...**

Some 1,660 volleyballs are being distributed to least favoured schools around the world thanks to the efforts of a group of school students from Kyoto (Japan) working through FIDEPS (International Fund for the Development of Physical Education and Sport). The students, acting under their own initiative, collected the balls, which have been sent, via FIDEPS to schools in Cape Verde, Guinée, Madagascar, Mozambique, Seychelles, Chad, Costa Rica, Guatemala, Mexico, Peru, India and Romania.

This is exactly the type of solidarity FIDEPS encourages under its Charter of Physical Education and Sport, a copy of which has been sent to the Kyoto students.

■ **FOR DEMOCRACY IN LATIN AMERICA...**

The importance of democracy and peace for development and instilling democratic values in the human spirit from early childhood are the guiding principles of the Montevideo Declaration adopted at the conference "Democratic Culture and Development: Latin America on the eve of the third millennium". Organized under the auspices of the Uruguay government by Unesco and the PAX Institute, the conference, held in Montevideo from November 27-30, was attended by political figures, jurists, economists, political scientists, sociologists and philosophers from Latin America and Europe.

The Declaration calls on governments and international organizations to promote democracy through regional and international cooperation and proposes a series of measures including research, education, cultural policies, and the development of judicial and institutional structures.

■ **NEW REVIEW FOR FUND**

Introducing the work of the International Fund for the Promotion of Culture is the major aim of "Reflections", a new, annual publication, whose first issue has just been published.

The 60-page, illustrated review presents various projects which have been supported by the Fund over the past year and, through them, explores the trends, aspirations and major obstacles confronting crafts people and arts communities around the world.

"Reflections" has been published for Unesco by the Hamdard Foundation of Pakistan.

>>>> *International Fund for the Promotion of Culture*

A signal of alarm

Five millions "street children" in Africa

They are the bad conscience of a model of development that has collapsed; of an urbanization process that has shattered traditional structures. They loiter in the streets, pilfer, clean windscreens, beg, or sell cigarettes. At night, when the cinemas close, they often form groups and sleep wherever they can find shelter. They are pursued by police, often manipulated by them, and frequently end up in prison. They are between seven and 15 years old and have become known as the "street children".

Such children are not merely orphans or drop-outs, but the product of deep-seated trends and global forces which have subjected their families to intolerable stress. The force of their revolt leaves adults anxious, sometimes frightened, and, in the case of parents, ashamed.

Public authorities, rendered impotent by a problem they would rather not have to deal with, prefer to disguise it by using such categories as "disadvantaged children" or children "in difficulty". In the industrialized countries, they conjure up scenes from Dickens' "David Copperfield" and the industrial revolution. The phenomenon has been recognized for many years in Latin America, but it is now starting to make its presence felt in Asia and even Africa, where, until recently, village and family solidarity kept it to a minimum. In Africa there are neither orphanages nor hostels: the family, clan or village is supposed to look after their most vulnerable members - the children and the aged.

The available statistics are only approximative: "street children" by definition cannot be included in a population census and, apart from that, authorities generally try to minimise the problem. Despite this, the numbers indicate a disturbing increase in these children: 30 million around the world; five million in Africa. Yesterday, they were a footnote, today they constitute a real problem. If this trend is maintained, they will, tomorrow, be a blight on urban civilization.

Children in revolt (Photo UNICEF/Steve Jackson).

In an effort to find a solution, Unesco and UNICEF organized two seminars, in Cotonou (Benin) from November 19-23 and in Nairobi (Kenya) from December 3-7. The participants representing concerned NGOs and various governments targetted four objectives: examine available information on these children; to canvass human and material resources; formulate projects for the various organizations; and finally, draw up guidelines for national policies. The participants also went out into the shanty towns around Nairobi and Cotonou to meet and listen to these children. *"These are children who have gone into revolt"* explains Togolese anthropologist and Unesco programme specialist Amewusik Tay. *"They have revolted against the adults in whom they see only a breakdown of ethical values. What do they want from adults? A little justice and a little love. It's not by repressing them that we are going to help their insertion into society..."*

Unesco, working with UNICEF, and following on from the Education for All conference in Thailand last March, has put priority on the essential education requirements of these children, who will have no chance of changing their situation if these needs are not met.

Economy and demography

Today the causes of the phenomenon are better known. The Regional Director for UNICEF in West and Central Africa, Stanislas Adotevi, defines them as closely related to *"the economic recession, constantly falling prices of commodities upon which the majority of our populations depend, while, at the same time, prices of manufactured products skyrocket. Not to mention high interest rates, the crushing foreign debt ... the diminishing flow of foreign investment into our countries. In other words, accelerated impoverishment, reduced revenues and means of livelihood - all reflecting an economy in total collapse."*

The causes, however, are not only economic. They are also demographic. According to the World Bank, the urban population growth rate averages an annual 8.5% in the 35 major capitals of Sub-Saharan Africa, which are doubling their inhabitants every nine years.

"The European model of development and urbanization has destroyed family structures," said Mr. Tay. *"The traditional African house is round, integrated. Modern architecture and apartment living no longer makes it possible for the grandmother or an uncle to be with the family. If the parents are not at home, children go onto the streets. African culture has disappeared from our big cities which, in addition, lack the social services available to city dwellers in the industrialized countries. Here, in Africa, it goes without saying that the child is sacred. The child is our future. For us, the existence of 'street children' indicates moral degradation, the end of our traditional values."*

The causes are also scholastic : the failure of education systems, the fact that they no longer fulfil their role and are inaccessible to vast numbers of children (the average rate of school enrolment in the Sahel is 51%) is accelerating the process. Inequality of opportunity, high rate of failure, marginalization and the inadequacy of schools to meet the needs of the population are seen as major factors in sending adolescents into the street.

Rampant urbanization

On top of this, rampant urbanization, linked in part to the repeated droughts of recent years and consequent rural exodus, precipitates towards shanty towns and squatter settlements all those whom the country-side can no longer feed. The most vulnerable among these urban migrants are women and children. As increasingly high percentages of urban poor households are female-headed, and because the majority are involved in unprotected, irregular economic activity, earning meagre incomes for long hours of work, more and more urban poor households are forced to send their children to work as well to ensure the family's survival instead of offering them the education which they normally need.

The problems posed by these children are immense and the difficulties in dealing with the dilemma are innumerable (acute shortage of resources, inertia of governments, insufficient numbers of social workers and other trained personnel). The solutions must be global and, in the long run, of course, depend on an improvement in Africa's economic situation.

Meanwhile, a certain number of projects or corrective interventions by NGO's, governments or international agencies will, hopefully relieve the situation, at least in the short-term.

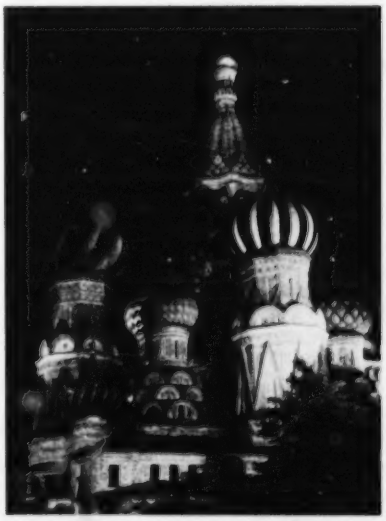
Max Cerrans

■ NEW WORLD HERITAGE SITES

Seventeen sites in 12 countries were added to Unesco's World Heritage List at the 14th Session of the World Heritage Committee in Banff (Canada) from December 7-12.

The additions are a mix of cultural and natural sites in Germany, China, Greece, Madagascar, New Zealand, Panama, Peru, the USSR, Bolivia, Italy, Dominican Republic, and Ukrainian SSR.

The Committee also agreed to fund projects for the improvement or protection of several parks and monuments on the list as well as training programmes, to the tune of almost $500,000.



The Basilica of the Blessed Basil in Moscow's Red Square - one of four sites in the USSR added to the World Heritage List (Photo Unesco/A. Vorontzoff).

■ FILM-MAKERS IN EXILE

The difficulties confronted by film-makers obliged to work in foreign countries was the subject of a seminar held during the Three Continents Film Festival in Nantes (France) from November 20-27.

Some 18 film-makers and journalists attended the two-day seminar (Nov. 25-26), which was supported by Unesco's International Fund for the Promotion of Culture.

The themes treated by these film-makers, funding and distribution possibilities, and the limitations they face, cultural or otherwise, were discussed at length by the participants.

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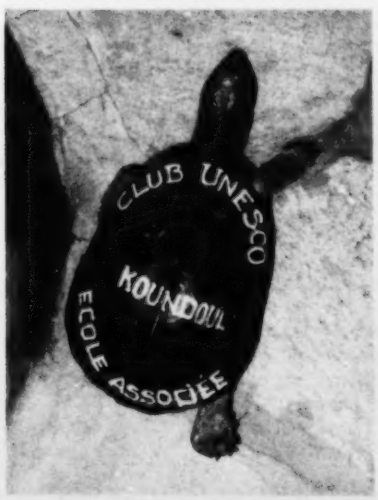
■ NGO'S MEET IN HAMBURG

The preparation of a practical guide for literacy workers in the field, and the creation of an information network to support those organizations involved in this domain were among the recommendations adopted at the Seventh Collective Consultation of Non-Governmental Organizations on Literacy and Adult Education, held in Hamburg (Germany) from December 3-6.

Representatives from 50 NGO's, and observers, attended the annual meeting, which was hosted by the Unesco Institute of Education in Hamburg. The participants also appraised several project proposals, selecting the best for further elaboration and presentation to funding agencies. They also agreed to broaden the Consultation's mandate from dealing specifically with adult education to education for all.

■ CHAD HOSTS ASP

National co-ordinators of Unesco's Associated Schools Project (ASP) from 10 countries in all regions met in N'Djamena (Chad) from November 19 to 23. The purpose of the meeting, organized by the Chad National Commission to Unesco, was to take stock of an Interregional Project launched two years ago in Bangkok (Thailand) to reinforce, co-ordinate and initiate innovative action aimed at achieving the objectives of the World Decade for Cultural Development and promoting environmental education. A school visited by the participants in Koundoul presented the Unesco representative with a tortoise nicknamed "PIR" the French acronym for Projet Interregional - IRP in English). The "mascot" visited Paris Headquarters in early December.



ASP/Unesco Clubs Mascot "PIR" visits Unesco Headquarters (Photo Unesco/ Michel Claude)

Reason over emotion

Which education for the Palestinians ?

To educate is to build the future. Firm in this conviction, Omar Massalha, the Permanent Observer of Palestine at Unesco, has a special interest in education and training. In 1987 and 1988, the Executive Board recommended that studies should be made of the needs of the Palestinian people in the Organization's fields of competence. In the domain of education, it was recommended that a curriculum centre should be established in a future Palestinian State. A group of specialists laid its foundations at a meeting held at Unesco headquarters, last summer. It should have its provisional offices in Cyprus and begin work in 1991 with a 5-year budget of $8 million.

This, of course, is a professional issue; but it is also a political and philosophical one. The political issue for Omar Massalha is that *"the time for action has come"*; for he foresees an independent Palestine before 1995 and it takes two to five years to draw up a school curriculum. The philosophical issue is that an education system is never neutral but is based on certain values. *"For the first time in the Middle East, a people is adopting the values of the developed Western world, those of the French Revolution and human rights"*, declares Omar Massalha. *"Secularism, democracy and political pluralism will guide its educational system "*. Lastly, there is the professional issue. The education system for Palestinian children is as fragmented as the Palestinian people themselves, scattered under a variety of political, and therefore academic, authorities.

Unify curriculum

Four types of education systems were identified : private Palestinian establishments ; those under the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA); those operating under Israeli law in the occupied territories and, lastly, establishments coming under the authority of Arab countries. The primary purpose of the new centre is therefore to unify the curriculum.

"Education systems must take account of the political environment", says one of the Western participants at the August meeting, who has asked not to be named. *"For example, the participants asked if Hebrew should be considered as a foreign language or as a working language, considering that at the present time thousands of Palestinians speak it. The Palestinians know that tomorrow they will have to live and co-operate with Israel. They will take this into account when drawing up their educational curriculum"*.

"To learn to live in peace" (Photo Unesco/D. Roger)

"Our children will have to learn to live in peace with Jewish children", agrees Omar Massalha. *"However, if they are to co-operate tomorrow they will have to achieve an equivalent cultural level today. If the gap is allowed to remain, it can only lead to conflict. The road to pacific co-existence between our peoples is via education. In addition, we are against fanatical and totalitarian ideas. Accordingly, we must teach our children to use their critical faculties and to give reason pride of place over emotion"*.

Max Cerrans

Facing up to the problem

Functionnal illiteracy in Eastern Europe

"In a 'perfect' system you can't have failures ... consequently, functional illiteracy was always seen by the Eastern European countries as a problem of western societies." According to Dr. Gerard Huck, an education researcher from the former Democratic Republic of Germany, one of the little publicized benefits of the "fall of the wall" is that the blindfolds have come off and the problem has now been recognized in Eastern Europe.

"...however, the size of the problem has not yet been realized," he warns. Dr. Huck, from the Institute for International Education Policy and Pedagogy in Berlin, was one of 43 participants in seminar on Functional Literacy in Eastern and Western Europe, held at the Unesco Institute for Education in Hamburg last November.

Meetings with specialists from other parts of the world, are vitally important for researchers like Dr. Huck, who have not had access to the wealth of material available on literacy work.

"The first such conference I attended was organized by Unesco in Ottenstein (Austria) in 1989. I had been given a directive to present, stating that functional illiteracy did not exist in the GDR, but after listening to the other participants I had to admit that I really didn't know if this phenomenon existed in my country or not, as we had never done any research in this field."

Elsewhere in the East the situation was much the same with illiteracy rates being estimated from population census results or rare sample surveys. The last figures provided by the USSR (1979), for example, claim that only 0.2% of the population was illiterate, while Poland posted an official illiteracy rate in 1978 of 1.2%. Hungary recognized only 1.1% in 1980, but in 1987 researcher Tamas Terestyeni from the Research Centre for Mass Communications in Budapest pushed this up to 2-3%, stressing, however, that the figures must be higher as *"standard sociological research and polling procedures (in Hungary) generally under-represent those strata and groups who are socially and culturally most deprived and whose communication skills are habitually the lowest."*

According to Gerard Huck, *"there was so much input into the education systems of these countries that functional illiteracy was simply unimaginable,"* explains Dr. Huck.

"Apart from that, even when education research was carried out, more often than not it ended up gathering dust in a drawer."

With the social upheavals occurring in Eastern Europe the question of literacy has suddenly moved much higher up on the agenda.

"I believe that unemployment in the old GDR will climb to four million in the coming years," predicts Dr. Huck whose own academy was closen on December 31. *"We must develop re-education programmes for these people, who are facing a whole new world."*

"Happily, projects are now underway in all of Eastern Europe to gather reliable data, raise public awareness and to draw up a course of action."

Sue Williams

■ SOLIDARITY WITH THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE

"A people exists to a great extent through its culture, and so long as that culture survives and grows, its future is assured in spite of the vicissitudes of history". This was why, as Mr C. Sharma, Deputy Director-General for Management, explained in his opening address, culture had been placed at the centre of festivities marking the International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People, at Unesco Headquarters on November 29.

Celebrations thus included a musical programme and an exhibition of traditional arts: Christian liturgical chants by Palestinian soprano Tania Nasir, a hymn dedicated to "Children of the Stones" by Lebanese singer Wadi El Safi, a display of decorated ceramics, textiles, objects of olive wood and a demonstration of glassblowing.

■ $1.5M FOR BASIC EDUCATION IN THE SAHEL

The German Government will contribute some $1.5m under a funds-in-trust agreement with Unesco, for a basic education project in Africa's Sahel.

The project represents a concrete response to decisions taken at the Education for All conference held in Thailand last March and has four major objectives: development of national capacities in education management; support in setting up local schoolbook production; to carry out training courses for teacher trainees; and procurement of materials and equipment for teacher training centres.

The African partner countries include Burkina Faso, Chad, Mali, Mauritania, Niger and Senegal.

■ LATIN AMERICA AND SCIENTIFIC DEVELOPMENT

Specialists participating in a Conference, «Science and Technology for the Future of Latin America», organized in Acapulco (Mexico) from December 3 to 6, concluded the meeting with a series of recommendations addressed to governments, international organizations and the private sector.

Declaring that science is an integral part of culture and represents an investment in the future, the 130 scientists called upon governments to give high priority to scientific development. International organizations, they said, should promote the North-South dialogue to reinforce scientific capabilities on the national and regional levels, notably in the area of new technologies : biotechnologies, computer sciences, telecommunications, etc.

looking ahead

EXHIBITIONS

Two exhibitions will be on view at Unesco Headquarters during March: The first, from March 4 to 15, presenting the metal sculptures of U.S. artist Herb Rosenberg; the second, organized by the USSR delegation from March 10 to 15, devoted to the great Russian ballet impresario Serge Diaghilev, and the Bernois family of Leningrad. Of French origin, the Bernois family counted many artists, among them the painter Alexandre Bernois, one of the founders, with Diaghilev, of the famous *Ballet Russe*.

1991
HAPPY NEW YEAR

The staff of *Unesco Sources* wishes its readers a very Happy New Year 1991. We hope they will approve and enjoy, beginning in the February issue, our brand-new layout - and look! We also take pleasure in announcing the birth, set for the same February issue, of our Spanish edition.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL OCEANOGRAPHIC COMMISSION

The 16th session of the IOC Assembly, to be held at Headquarters from March 7 to 22, will examine the full range of the Commission's activities, including: the ocean's role in climate and global change, ocean science in relation to living resources, ocean mapping, marine pollution, marine acoustics, and global ocean observing systems. The Assembly will follow the 24th session of the IOC Executive Committee (March 5-6); the 5th session of the IOC Committee for Training, Education and Mutual Assistance in Marine Sciences (February 25 - March 1), and the 4th session of the IOC Technical Committee for Ocean Processes and Climate (February 27 - March 1).

SILK ROADS

Two seminars are scheduled for February and March along the Maritime Expedition, as the *"Fulk Al-Salamah"* (Ship of Peace) continues its voyage. In **Kyongju** (Republic of Korea, February 23-25) on *"Korean Culture and the Silk Roads"*, and in **Nara** (Japan, March 4-8), not far from the port of Osaka, the expedition's final destination, on two themes - *"The Silk Roads and* Shoso-in, *the Japanese Imperial Treasure House in Nara»*, and *"Ceramics carried over the Maritime Silk Roads"*. This seminar will be inaugurated in the presence of Prince Mikasa, brother of the late Emperor Hirohito, and an eminent historian in his own right.

ETHICS AND SCIENCE

A week of reflection on science ethics will take place at Paris Headquarters from February 25 to March 1. At the meeting, the specialists will discuss the ethical implications of contemporary science and technology and their impact on Unesco's programme and action.

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

As each year on March 8, International Women's Day will be celebrated throughout the United Nations system.

GENERAL INFORMATION PROGRAMME

A co-operative network for the distribution of scientific literature to developing countries will be planned at a meeting organized for Unesco by the International Council of Scientific Unions (ICSU) - at Headquarters from March 11 to 13.

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OUR NEXT ISSUE

The main dossier of Unesco Sources January issue will be devoted to a preliminary assessment of 1990 - International Literacy Year - both from the point of view of "Education for All" and literacy itself. Articles will include : a consideration of the Year's main objectives and the extent to which they were or were not fulfilled; an interview with the President of the World Bank; the case of the industrialized countries; an appraisal of the situation in the Third World, taking India as an example; and finally, action taken by Non-governmental organizations. A message from the Director-General will open the dossier.